

Foley High School, as well as The University of Alabama. As a young boy in high school and as a young man in college, he was constantly looking for ways to serve those around him. This has been a characteristic and quality that he has carried with him all his life; not a day has passed since he became Mayor of Foley that he wasn't working to make his hometown a better place to live.

Mayor Russell is also a veteran, having served his country in the Vietnam War where he was awarded the U.S. Army Commendation Medal. Mr. Speaker, I know of no one who is more patriotic or loves his country more than Tim Russell.

Tim and his lovely wife, Sandy, are the proud parents of two outstanding sons, Kevin and Kenton, a beautiful daughter, Karen, and a very handsome new grandson, Timothy. Not only has he been a wonderful father and husband, but Tim Russell is a great role model and someone we all respect.

Throughout his illustrious 12 years as mayor, Tim has been a dedicated, faithful public servant. In fact, if you were to look up the definition of a "servant leader" in Webster's Dictionary, you would very likely see Tim Russell's picture.

His list of accomplishments is long enough to fill an entire volume of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Among the highlights, he was the person most responsible for developing the main hurricane evacuation route away from South Alabama's beaches during a time of emergency. Today, this heavily-traveled highway is known around the state and throughout the Southeast as the "Foley Beach Express."

He also provided crucial leadership to the people of Foley in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Ivan. Tim's experience and guidance proved crucial to the entire region, especially during the rebuilding process that followed this devastating storm. Because of his steady hand, the recovery in South Baldwin County was much better than expected.

Mayor Russell also played a lead role in helping to develop what is now known as the Tanger Outlet Mall in Foley. This retail center is one of the largest attractions in the entire state of Alabama. In addition to being one of the area's largest employers, the Tanger Outlet Mall in Foley provides one of the largest streams of revenue to the entire state.

Last month, Mayor Russell chose to resign from the office of mayor—an office he so dearly loved—in order to better serve the people of South Alabama in the wake of an insurance crisis following three major hurricane seasons throughout the central Gulf Coast. Tim returns to his position as president of Baldwin Mutual Insurance Company, where he is fast becoming one of the leading experts in the nation on affordable and accessible insurance coverage. He resigned the office of mayor so as to not even suggest at a possible conflict of interest; that is simply the kind of man he is.

Tim's lifetime of service has certainly not gone unnoticed. He has been recognized by Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Outstanding Young Men of America, Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, the 1991 Free Enterprise Person of the Year, Who's Who in the World, and the Sam Walton Leadership Award. He has also been commended by the U.S. Senate and received the NAMIC Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, the faithful service of outstanding Americans like Mayor Tim Russell

has aided in an immeasurable way to the wellbeing of our community. I would like to offer my congratulations to Tim for his many personal and professional achievements and offer a heartfelt "thank you" for a job well done.

I know his family and many friends join with me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts on behalf of the people of Foley and the entire State of Alabama.

MIRIAM RUTH GUTMAN  
BRAVERMAN GREAT POINT-OF-  
LIGHT

### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Miriam Braverman as a Great Point-of-Light for all Americans. Dr. Braverman was a great humanitarian as well as a Librarian specializing in literature for youth. She had a soul and mind that could absorb the essence of the entire sweep of our civilization. Her encyclopedic approach to the world produced insights which catapulted her into the moral leadership of her profession. "Claims of respect for human life are rhetoric if librarians continue as merely neutral disseminators of information."

Dr. Braverman clearly understood that the power of information was continually escalating. That our culture could experience a dangerous overload bloated with trivia was a major concern. She advocated a selectivity focused on human rights advocacy as a guide for the preparation and dissemination of materials for youth. In her dissertation she criticized a generation of librarians who were obviously preoccupied with shielding youth from matters related to sex while ignoring great amounts of violence in the literature targeted for boys.

Miriam Braverman was an advocate in the classroom and a fighter on the street with the demonstrators against war and injustice. In Brownsville, one of New York's poorest communities, she inspired large numbers of young women to go on to college through her leadership of a Career and College Club. At the national level she was a leader in the movement which culminated in the American Library Association's condemnation of the war in Vietnam. Constantly she pushed for greater library involvement in the practical utilization of information and retrieval services. She was also an astute political observer and an enthusiastic advisor who supported many progressive candidates including the first campaign of MAJOR OWENS for the New York State Senate and the MAJOR OWENS for Congress campaigns. To block the triumph of evil she felt that participation in electoral politics was a necessary chore.

Miriam Braverman, without hesitation, as a college professor rallied to assist her students with any problem, academic or personal. As a neighbor and friend she responded to any emergency. Loving the whole world and being concerned with mankind began with a single individual. In her honor the Progressive Librarian: A Journal for Critical Studies and Progressive Politics in Librarianship has established a Miriam Braverman Prize Essay Contest. Today I am joined by a band of dedicated fol-

lowers as I salute Dr. Miriam Braverman as a Great Point-of-Light for all Americans.

### THE NORTHERN BORDER TRAVEL FACILITATION ACT

### HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong support for the Northern Border Travel Facilitation Act. As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, I held a November 17, 2005, hearing on the implementation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI). WHTI may mandate the use of a passport for all travel between the United States and Canada as early as January 1, 2008. In 2003 alone, there were 34.5 million visits by Canadians to the U.S., which had a \$10.9 billion impact on our economy. Thus, if handled incorrectly, the WHTI travel document requirements could have serious detrimental effect on the United States economy.

Because of the cost and lack of speed in using a passport for frequent travelers across the U.S.-Canadian Border, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has approved other forms of travel documents for U.S. citizens to comply with WHTI that are not available to Canadian citizens. This means that Canadian citizens have no current options other than to use a passport at border crossings to comply with WHTI requirements.

I believe that, in certain circumstances, Canadian provincial driver's licenses and U.S. state driver's licenses should be accepted as border crossing documents. I also believe that when children accompany a legal guardian across the United States-Canadian border, they should not have to provide separate travel documents from their guardian. After all, a parent should not have to suffer economic loss to verify that their three year old is not a terrorist. The Northern Border Travel Facilitation Act will accomplish both of these objectives.

### HONORING CONGRESSMAN LANE EVANS

SPEECH OF

### HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to a great American, a colleague and most importantly, a friend. LANE EVANS has served this body with his full heart and soul for the past 24 years and for his service and friendship I thank him so much.

LANE is an amazing man in every sense of the word. His tireless work as Ranking Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee has set the bar for which future Chairmen should strive to achieve. As a young Marine serving in Vietnam, he saw firsthand the rigors of war and it helped him to realize that our soldiers must be treated for all the symptoms of war and that some of the worst battle scars are visible but below the surface. His fight to get fair treatment for those suffering from Agent

Orange in Vietnam ensured he would be one of the first to recognize and push for treatment of Gulf War Syndrome and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Physical and mental health were not the only fights that he entered into on behalf of Veterans. He also led the battle to get equitable treatment for female veterans and worked tirelessly to combat the plight of homeless veterans across America. His work to ensure a high quality of life for those who have served us with honor will be one of his most noted legacies in this body.

LANE, I thank you for your friendship, your leadership and all of your service to our Nation. I know you have forever left your mark on your Nation, the House of Representatives, and all the veterans who have received better treatment because of your work.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to enclose with my statement the remarks of my predecessor and friend who also served this body with his full heart and soul, the Honorable Andy Jacobs, former Congressman for the 10th Congressional District of Indiana.

DECEMBER 8, 2006.

Hon. LANE EVANS, MC,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR LANE: The time has come for me to put on paper what I have fervently entertained in my mind through the years of our acquaintance.

To begin, you are one of my authentic heroes. British Lord Chesterton said, "Sometimes it takes less courage to die for one's country than to tell her the truth." On many more than one occasion you have displayed that greater courage in the profoundly patriotic performance of your chores as a member of Congress, service quite literally "above and beyond the call of duty."

In your effective opposition to the mindless, gratuitous and vicarious militarism of some national leaders, you have helped save the lives of hapless public spirited young Americans. Thus, you have done God's work most nobly.

For the young Americans who have been forced into unnecessary permanent combat disability, you have been a major national factor in achieving justice in terms of veterans' benefits.

You have also given our Nation bright lessons of prudence with the public purse. Thank you for being my friend and friend to all peace-loving freedom-loving Americans.

Sincerely,

ANDY JACOBS, JR.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PAGE PROGRAM

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following commentary by Jason Ackerman, of Fort Mill, South Carolina, which is in my congressional district. Jason was a House page in 2003–2004 and is now a student at New York University.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PAGE PROGRAM (By Jason Ackerman)

New York Times columnist John Tierney argues that the congressional page program should be eliminated because it serves no purpose for pages or for the country ("A page, M'Lord, at your service," Oct. 4).

Well John Tierney was obviously never a page.

I served as a page from August 2003 to January 2004. These months were some of the most special moments of my life—months in which I not only learned how Congress operates, but also months in which I made some of the greatest friends of my life.

A day in the life of a page is not easy. It starts at 6:45 in the morning when we all walk from our dorm a couple of blocks from the Capitol to the Library of Congress's Jefferson Building where school is held. Full-time teachers teach the same subjects that we would otherwise have been taking back at our home schools.

The school is not a piece of cake either. The courses are very challenging, so challenging in fact that when I came back to my high school I was way ahead in most subjects.

After school, which lasted until the House of Representatives commenced, we would head over to the Floor of the House of Representatives where we would start our daily tasks. There are many different page jobs, most of which are rotated around so everyone gets an opportunity to experience different areas of the House.

Some pages are runners, which involved taking documents from one place in the Capitol to another. Others are cloakroom pages, where we worked in the cloakroom answering phones about floor proceedings. Still others are in charge of the bell system and of raising and lowering the flag every day on the top of the House of Representatives to declare that the House is in session.

The day ends when the House goes out of session. This can be anywhere from 5:00 in the afternoon to 7:00 in the morning. Then we head home, do homework, socialize, clean our rooms (which are checked three times a week), and then go to bed at mandatory curfew hour, which was 10:00 on weekdays and 12:00 on weekends.

Some of my most memorable and enjoyable moments as a page were getting to interact with members of the House. Some would come by and tell us jokes, and others would take the time to help us identify someone we were trying to find or to explain to us what was going on at that moment in the complicated proceedings of the House.

Yes there were some unfriendly ones, but by and large most members are very kind and generous. There was not a single time in which I felt insecure or unsafe while on the Floor or at any other time while I was a page.

The lifelong friendships that I made because of the page program are some of the most amazing friendships of my life. Former pages are some of my closest friends, and I keep in touch with a lot of them on a daily or weekly basis. I now have friends in California and Wyoming that I would never have had the chance to make without this experience.

The page experience is something that I would not trade for anything, and it was one of the greatest times of my life. I witnessed history first hand, and made a ton of friends in the process. The experience also sparked my interest in public service, government, and the political process. I would not hesitate one moment to send my child to be a page.

These views are also shared with every one of my classmates that I have spoken to since the Foley scandal has erupted. My roommate, who was actually sponsored by Congressman Foley, stressed the importance of continuing the program because of how the program changed his life as well.

The only people who do not want the program to continue are people who know nothing about the program and have never talked to a page.

Congressman Foley made a mistake, and should be punished to the full extent of the law, but to punish the page program for his mistake is not only unfortunate but also unjust.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE HENRY J. HYDE OF ILLINOIS

SPEECH OF

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 32 years of service from the distinguished gentleman from Illinois, my friend and colleague, Chairman HENRY J. HYDE. I am humbled to say that I have served the American people alongside a truly great American.

Though I have only served for a little over a year with him, I have grown to admire him for his unwavering commitment to protecting innocent life. Mr. HYDE has fought vigorously to protect those who cannot protect themselves most notably with the Hyde Amendment in 1976. Before taking office, I was President of Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati and admired his leadership and guided wisdom.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for his commitment to principle rather than expediency. He stood up for American values and during the Cold War, worked to ensure that America remain that shining city on a hill. I am honored and proud to say that I am his colleague.

The gentleman and his leadership and wisdom will be missed. This institution has certainly been blessed by his service. Mr. Chairman, congratulations on your retirement and congratulations to you and your new bride.

#### CONGRATULATING THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF KAZAKHSTAN ON THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating the Government and the people of Kazakhstan on the 15th anniversary of their independence. I am encouraged by how far this Central Asian country has come since its independence in 1991, both in terms of economic and democratic progress. Kazakhstan has overcome numerous obstacles and challenges and today is a well recognized leader in promotion of economic and political freedoms in a region of great and growing importance to the security of the United States.

This year we also mark the 15th anniversary of the U.S.-Kazakhstan relationship. Kazakhstan has become not only a strategic partner, but a true friend of the United States. Kazakhstan has been a valuable ally to the